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VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

February 17, 2005

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 408X); BNSF Railway Company ("BNSF") Abandonment between Aurora, Nebraska and Central City, Nebraska

Dear Secretary Williams:

On March 1, 2004, BNSF filed a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon or discontinue service of approximately 15.60 miles of railroad line between milepost 1.90, near Aurora, in Hamilton County, Nebraska and milepost 17.50, near Central City, in Merrick County, Nebraska. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 68818, 68854, and 68826. By decision served April 21, 2004, the STB granted the authority to abandon effective as of May 31, 2004.

Winter weather conditions have hampered the ability to conduct salvage activities. Accordingly, BNSF requests an extension of the consummation deadline until December 31, 2005.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 347-8667.

Sincerely,

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.

SLS/js

cc: James Gallegos
Jerry Johnson
Richard Batie
Dalen Wintermute